

**Amendments to the Claims:**

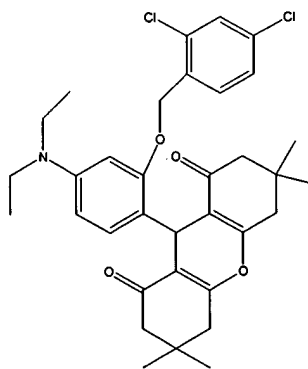
Please amend Claims 1-3 and 33, cancel Claim 3, and add new Claims 60-67.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

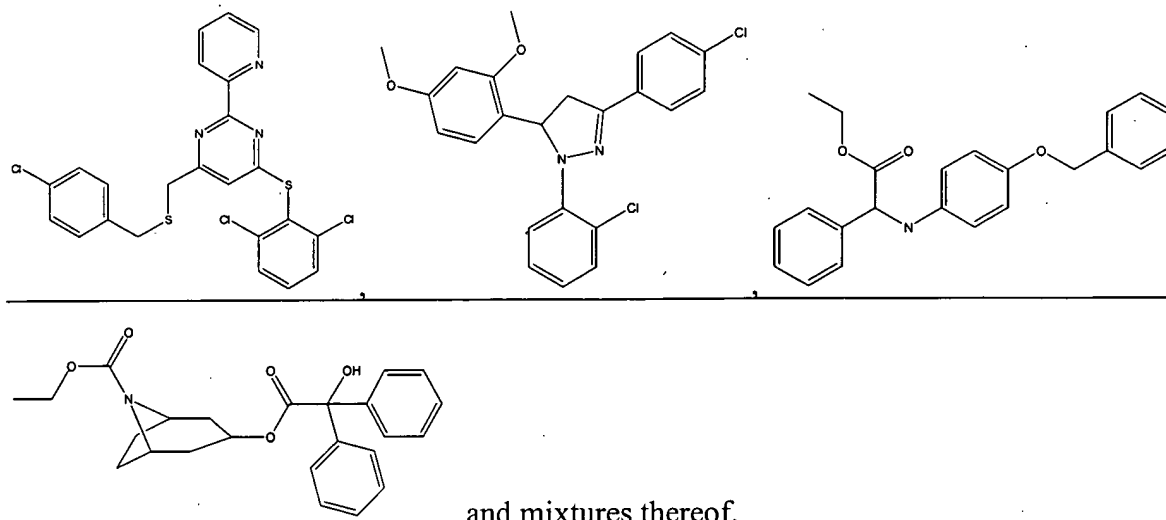
**Listing of Claims:**

1                   1 (currently amended): A method for identifying a therapeutic agent for use in  
2     treating a constitutive androstane receptor (CAR)-mediated disorder or condition, wherein the  
3     CAR-mediated disorder or condition is hypercholesterolemia, the method comprising:  
4                   identifying a candidate therapeutic agent by screening one or more compounds to  
5     determine whether said compounds ~~can modulate~~ comprise an agonist of a CAR-mediated  
6     intermolecular interaction;  
7                   administering the candidate therapeutic agent to a test mammal; and  
8                   determining whether the level of a cholesterol indicator is ~~modulated~~ decreased in  
9     said test mammal in comparison to a test mammal in which the candidate therapeutic agent is not  
10    administered.

1                   2 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein said candidate  
2     therapeutic agent is selected from the group consisting of 5 $\beta$ -pregnan-3,20-dione, 1,4-bis[2-(3,5-



3     dichloropyridyloxy)]benzene (TCPOBOP),



3 (canceled).

4 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the test mammal is a cholesterol-elevated mammal.

5 (original): The method of claim 4, wherein the test mammal has a disruption in both CAR alleles.

6 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said cholesterol indicator is the level of serum cholesterol.

7 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said cholesterol indicator is the level of a member selected from the group consisting of HDL cholesterol, LDL cholesterol, and VLDL cholesterol.

8 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said cholesterol indicator is the mRNA level of a gene involved in the regulation of cholesterol levels.

9 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said CAR-mediated intermolecular interaction is CAR-mediated gene expression.

10-32 (canceled)

1           33 (currently amended): A method for identifying a therapeutic agent for use in  
2 treating a constitutive androstane receptor (CAR)-mediated disorder or condition, wherein the  
3 CAR-mediated disorder or condition is hypercholesterolemia, the method comprising:

4           administering a compound to a CAR compromised mammal, wherein said CAR  
5 compromised mammal comprises a mutation, disruption or insertion in at least one CAR allele  
6 that prevents the production of a functional CAR polypeptide; and

7           determining whether administration of the compound results in a change in  
8 cholesterol level compared to a CAR compromised mammal to which the compound is not  
9 administered.

1           34 (original): The method of claim 33, wherein the method further comprises  
2 administering the compound to a CAR non-compromised mammal and comparing the effect on  
3 the cholesterol level indicator of administering the compound to that of administering the  
4 compound to the CAR compromised mammal.

1           35 (original): The method of claim 33, wherein said cholesterol level indicator is  
2 the level of serum cholesterol.

1           36 (original): The method of claim 33, wherein said cholesterol level indicator is  
2 the level of a member selected from the group consisting of HDL cholesterol, LDL cholesterol,  
3 and VLDL cholesterol.

1           37 (original): The method of claim 33, wherein said cholesterol level indicator is  
2 the mRNA level of a gene involved in the regulation of cholesterol levels.

1           38 (original): The method of claim 33, wherein said CAR compromised mammal  
2 is a mammal having a disruption in both CAR alleles.

1                   39 (original): The method of claim 38, wherein said CAR compromised mammal  
2 is a mouse.

1                   40 (original): The method of claim 38, wherein said disruption occurs in the  
2 coding region for the DNA binding domain of CAR.

1                   41 (original): The method of claim 38, wherein said disruption in a CAR allele  
2 comprises an insertion at codons for amino acid positions from about amino acid 21 to about  
3 amino acid 86 of CAR $\beta$ .

42-59 (canceled)

1                   60. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein said CAR-mediated intermolecular  
2 interaction comprises CAR binding to a ligand for CAR.

1                   61. (new) A method for identifying a therapeutic agent for use in treating a  
2 constitutive androstane receptor (CAR)-mediated disorder or condition, wherein the CAR-  
3 mediated disorder or condition is hypocholesterolemia, the method comprising:  
4                   identifying a candidate therapeutic agent by screening one or more compounds to  
5 determine whether said compounds comprise at least one of an antagonist or an inverse agonist  
6 of a CAR-mediated intermolecular interaction;  
7                   administering the candidate therapeutic agent to a test mammal; and  
8                   determining whether the level of a cholesterol indicator is increased in said test  
9 mammal in comparison to a test mammal in which the candidate therapeutic agent is not  
10 administered.

1                   62. (new) The method of claim 61, wherein said candidate therapeutic agent is  
2 selected from the group consisting of 5 $\alpha$ -androst-16-en-3 $\alpha$ -ol, 5 $\alpha$ -androstane-3 $\alpha$ -ol, androstenol-  
3 3-acetate, 5 $\alpha$ -androstan-3 $\alpha$ -ol-acetate, androstenol, androstanol, and mixtures thereof.

1                   63.     (new) The method of claim 61, wherein said cholesterol indicator is the  
2 level of serum cholesterol.

1                   64.     (new) The method of claim 61, wherein said cholesterol indicator is the  
2 level of a member selected from the group consisting of HDL cholesterol, LDL cholesterol, and  
3 VLDL cholesterol.

1                   65.     (new) The method of claim 61, wherein said cholesterol indicator is the  
2 mRNA level of a gene involved in the regulation of cholesterol levels.

1                   66.     (new) The method of claim 61, wherein said CAR-mediated  
2 intermolecular interaction is CAR-mediated gene expression.

1                   67.     (new) The method of claim 61, wherein said CAR-mediated  
2 intermolecular interaction comprises CAR binding to a ligand for CAR.